

Fulfill your fancy in neighboring Nuremberg

On to Nuremberg, the second largest city in Bavaria. While it is easy to drive to the city, taking the train is really a fun way to arrive.

The Bahnhof is located right on the edge of the old city only a short walk up the Konigstrasse from many of the main attractions and great shopping areas.

The only problem is by starting here, you may be too tired to enjoy the castle located at the other end of the Altstadt and as castles tend to be, it is on a hill. So we'll start there.

Nuremberg has more than 1,000 years of history as one of the most influential cities in central Europe especially during its Golden Age (1100 – 1500) as a medieval trade center.

Be sure to visit the **Kaiserburg Castle**, which sits majestically over the city. The gardens are beautifully maintained and free to view. The castle itself has many attractions including the deep well and the **Sinwell Tower**. The medieval feel of the castle could make it a really special place to you.

As in any city that is over 1,000 years old, there are many interesting and ancient churches. We are going to discuss three.

The first one you will come across on your way down the hill from the castle is **St. Sebald**. On April 20, 1945, the church was heavily damaged, but the residents of Nuremberg would not allow it to become a casualty of war and the church was meticulously restored.

A story has been passed down through the ages concerning of the location of the church.

It was said when St. Sebald passed away; he had left instruction to have his coffin placed on a cart drawn by a donkey. Wherever the



Bridges are necessary to cross the river in some parts of the city.

donkey stopped would be the spot to build his church. Be sure to stop in and say hi to St. Sebald who is in attendance.

Only a little further is the **Hauptmarkt** or main market. This is the location of the **Christkindlesmarkt**, one of the best festivals – holiday or otherwise - in Germany, and is held during late November and December.

During other times such as now, the market hosts several outdoor eating areas and a farmers market. Fresh produce and flowers are almost always available.

Besides the impressive nature of the square, there are two great attractions around the market.

The first is the **Schoner Brunnen** or the “Beautiful Well”, built in 1396,

which was the city water source for consumption and agriculture for more than 600 years. Today the Gothic style monument is a gathering point for the people of the city.

The second is the Gothic **Frauenkirche** or the Church of our Lady that dominates over the square. Begun in 1351, it has been the main Catholic Church in Protestant Nuremberg for centuries and features a 400-year-old animated clock that performs once a day at noon.

The **Pegnitz River** meanders through the city in a peaceful sort of way. There are nine bridges to contemplate the slow moving waterway and one seems to come along just when you need a short break.

Heading back towards the train station you will run into **St. Lawrence Church**. Once again, a brilliant example of Gothic design that houses a magnificent wood sculpture. The Angelic Salutation by Viet Stoss, one of the most beautiful examples of German Renaissance sculpture. Anton II Tucher, the highest official of Nuremberg of the time, commissioned the work in 1517.

There are so many other wonderful things to do and see in Nuremberg including toy and rail museums, a zoo with a dolphinarium, an English movie theatre, Zeppelin Field site of the Nazi Rallies you've seen in WWII news reels, canal cruises and many more too numerous to list.

Yet there are three more things to note that may be of interest to many people. Food, Nuremberg is a modern city with restaurants in great variety and frequency. So when you come for an afternoon, plan to find a new restaurant and have dinner in the city.

Not to be forgotten is the restaurant competing with the Schricker Historische Wurstkuechen in Regensburg as the oldest bratwurst restaurant in the world. Sadly it is not as centrally located as the Wurstkuchen, it claims to be the original founded in 1419. That's 588 years of bratwurst. For all of you who would like to sample both of the restaurants and decide for yourselves, this one is located at Zirkelschmiedsgasse 26. Perhaps the easiest thing to do is go to the information office located immediately across the street as you walk out of the train station underground tunnel leading to the city.



The Frauenkirche, located in the Hauptmarkt, is the largest Catholic church in a primarily Protestant area.



The old city wall still surrounds the city of Nuremberg.

Get a map and ask their help to find it. They speak great English and can be very helpful.

If bratwurst is not your choice, there are all kinds of restaurants and if you have a taste for something, let the information people aim you in the right direction.

Shopping. If you can't find what you want in Nuremberg, you just aren't trying. There are many modern stores of all kinds located down nearly every street.

The shopping district starts as you exit from the Bahnhof underground with the Handwerkhof, a unique conclave of souvenir and craft shops built in the medieval half-timbered style.

Once you're done, there is S. Oliver, Enders, Kaufhof and hundreds of other stores and boutiques selling the latest in fashion and style.

Just coming to Nuremberg for the shopping will provide you a fun day.

People Watching. There are few cities to rival Nuremberg for being able to sit down anywhere and just watch people. Old, young and everywhere in between.

You will discover there are no colors that cannot be combined and no area of the body that can't be pierced in abundance. If you used to go the mall just to hang out, you will find that is about eighth on the Nuremberg people watching and places-to-be scale.

Don't be surprised if hanging around in Nuremberg doesn't become one of your favorite things.

Whatever it is you enjoy, it's in Nuremberg. You will have fun!

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Street musicians are common sights throughout the city